

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS****IN THE CLAIMS:**

1-53. (Canceled)

54. (Currently Amended) A writing instrument comprising:

an elongate body having first and second ends;

a writing mechanism projecting from the body first end; and

a deformable sleeve having a generally tubular base with a first diameter and defining an inner surface engaging the body near the writing mechanism, a generally tubular outer membrane with a second diameter larger than the first diameter positioned generally concentric with the base, ~~wherein respective ends of the base and outer membrane engage to define~~ defining a cavity therebetween, respective ends of the base and outer membrane engaging to form an annular sealable passageway therebetween, defined between adjacent, engaged ends of the tubular base and outer membrane the annular sealable passageway being in fluid communication with the cavity, the respective ends of the base and outer membrane being oriented in the same direction and facing away from the second end of the elongate body thereby forming one end of the deformable sleeve, and a formable material disposed in through the annular sealable passageway and into the cavity.

55. (Previously Presented) The writing instrument of claim 54, in which the base and outer membrane are integrally formed from a single piece of material.

56. (Previously Presented) The writing instrument of claim 55, in which the single piece of material comprises an elongate, flexible tubular member having a first end, a second end, a larger diameter portion, and a smaller diameter portion, wherein the smaller diameter portion is partially disposed within the larger diameter portion such that the smaller diameter portion is folded and the first and second ends are adjacent to and contact each other, thereby forming the base and outer membrane.

57. (Previously Presented) The writing instrument of claim 56, in which the smaller diameter portion defines a 180 degree fold.

58. (Canceled)

59. (Previously Presented) The writing instrument of claim 54, in which the base and outer membrane are generally cylindrical.

60. (Previously Presented) The writing instrument of claim 54, in which the base and outer membrane are bonded together.

61. (Previously Presented) The writing instrument of claim 54, in which the formable material holds a deformed shape for at least 5 seconds following release by a user of the outer membrane.

62. (Previously Presented) The writing instrument of claim 54, in which opposite ends of the base and outer membrane engage one another to form flat edge portions on opposite ends of the sleeve.

63. (Previously Presented) The writing instrument of claim 54, in which the base inner surface is sized to frictionally engage the body.

64-69. (Canceled)

70. (Previously Presented) A writing instrument comprising:

an elongate body having first and second ends;

a writing mechanism projecting from the body first end; and

a deformable sleeve having a generally tubular base with a first diameter and defining an inner surface engaging the body near the writing mechanism, a generally tubular outer membrane with a second diameter larger than the first diameter positioned generally concentric with the base, wherein respective ends of the base and outer membrane engage to define a cavity therebetween, a sealable passageway defined between adjacent ends of the tubular base and outer membrane in fluid communication with the cavity, and a formable material disposed in the cavity, wherein the formable material holds a deformed shape for at least 5 seconds following release by a user of the outer membrane.